

1 Removing the Obstacles
Sermon Series: The Inquisition of Jesus
(Various Scripture) April 8, 2018

The Biggest Obstacle to Faith is “**Unbelief.**”

Mark 9:23-24 And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes." ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; **help my unbelief!**"

Here is someone **who believes** yet ask for help in his unbelief.

There are at least **Three Groups** that Struggle with Unbelief.

- I. **The first Group are the Skeptical** **John 20:25**
So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless **I see** in his hands the mark of the nails, and **place my finger** into the mark of the nails, and **place my hand** into his side, I will never believe."

The Skeptic will say I don't understand, this makes no sense, **I must have proof** or I will not believe!

To find proof you must seek proof: **Jeremiah 29:13** You will seek me and find me, when **you seek me with all your heart.**

Colossians 1:16-17 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and **in him** all things hold together.

Scientific Proof:

Steps of the Scientific Method

- **Make an Observation.** Scientists are naturally curious about the world. ...
- **Form a Question.** After making an interesting observation, a scientific mind itches to find out more about it. ...
- **Form a Hypothesis.** ... Theory
- **Conduct an Experiment.** ...
- **Analyze the Data** and Draw a Conclusion.

LAMININ Cell adhesion Molecule **Microscope**

Romans 1:20 For his **invisible attributes**, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, **in the things that have been made**. So they are without excuse.

You can choose to believe the Laminin Molecule is sufficient evidence or you can believe it's just a coincidence. Which **leads us to the next Group!**

II. The second Group are the Satisfied James 4:6

But he gives **more grace**. Therefore it says, "**God opposes the proud**, but gives grace to the humble."

The people in this group will say "**I Don't Want to Believe**" They are happy where they are. They don't see a need for God. In fact God just gets in their way. At the root of this problem is Pride!

The Satisfied are those who are Proud!

The Proud are those who Fear Intimacy, Fear Commitment, Fear the loss of Control.

They tend to **Dislike Authority** whether, **Social**, **Societal** or **Spiritual**.

Pride: to show yourself above other people, to lift yourself above others and God.

- Pride can keep people from **Publicly Acknowledging** Jesus as their Lord and Savior.
- Pride can keep people from **Publicly being Baptized**.
- Pride can keep people from **Going to Heaven!**

Do **you worry** what others will say?

Pride is the act of Your Will over God's Will.

Isaiah 14:12-14 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! ¹³ You said in your heart, '**I will** ascend to heaven; above the stars of God **I will** set my throne on high; **I will** sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; ¹⁴ **I will** ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I will** make myself like the Most High.'

This is what took place in **the Garden** of Eden.

When you come to Christ You Boldly claim

Romans 1:16 For I am **not ashamed** of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes...

III. **The Third Group are the Sketchy**

1 Corinthians 15:1-2 Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you-- **unless you believed in vain.**

I Do Believe; Isn't That Enough?

The answer to this question **depends** on what you believe.

James tells us in: James 2:19 It's good that you believe that God is one. Ha! Even the **demons believe** this, and they tremble with fear.

Here we see that The Demons believe. But they only believe in the **Intellectual Fact**, not the **Intentional Faith** that brings salvation.

Here is a scary truth: **Dr. Johnny Hunt** says “The devil could join the average church. He believes in Jesus, he knows Paul, believes in the resurrection, virgin birth, prophesy, hell, baptism, but no Lordship!

Demons are not atheist, or agnostics. They believe in the Deity of Jesus Christ. But they do not place their **trust in Jesus** as their Lord!

The Apostle John tells us in John 1:12-13 But those who did **welcome him**, those **who believed** in his name, **he authorized** to become God's children, ¹³ born not from blood nor from human desire or passion, but **born from God.**

[John MacArthur](#) says that to believe in “His name refers to the totality of Christ’s being. All that He is and does. Thus, it is not possible to separate His deity from His humanity, His being Savior from His being Lord, or His person from His redemptive work. Saving faith accepts Jesus Christ in all that Scripture reveals concerning Him.”

Scientific Method? Our data is The Word of God!

Jesus puts it this way **John 14:15** "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

Revelation 19:13 & 16 He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is **The Word of God**....He has a **name** written on his robe and on his thigh: King of kings and Lord of lords.

Believe the Word + **Receive** the Word = **Become**
the Word

Praise Team Takes The Platform